

**ABSTRACT:**

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The invention relates to the selection and sorting, by a device having access to one or more packet transmission networks, of the packets relating to it, from among the entirety of the packets made available by the networks, given that the packets respect at least two layers of protocols or even more. It consists of a method of selecting and sorting that successively implements, in respect of searches for matching addresses, two directories of addresses, the first of so-called lower levels having as elements the various possible combinations of the values taken by the addressing information contained in the service information fields of the first two levels of protocols, the second so-called higher levels having as elements the addressing information contained in the service information fields of the protocols of levels higher than two, the elements of the first and second directories being linked by compatibility links targeting those that can simultaneously be in the service information fields of a packet relevant to the device.